

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 05549 150340Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 /061 W

-----150718Z 083969 /21

R 150249Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8419

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 5549

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (LYNCH, KEVIN; O'BRIEN, JEAN; MURPHY, DENIS; FARLEY,  
ELIZABETH)

SUBJECT: GOP VISA RENEWAL FOR U.S. CITIZENS

REF: (A) STATE 083212; (B) MANILA 734

1. FOLLOWING IS STATUS OF RENEWAL CASES AS REQUESTED PARA 3  
REFTEL:

2. 2. SISTER JEAN O'BRIEN. MEMBER OF MARYKNOLL ORDER TOLD  
EMBOFF APRIL 12 GOP HAD REVERSED DECISION ON SISTER O'BRIEN.  
SHE SAID REVERSAL RESULT OF REQUEST OF BISHOP BRASSEUR OF  
BAGUIO. MARYKNOLL SOURCE CONFIRMED REPORT PARA 2, REFTEL A,  
THAT SISTER O'BRIEN HAD ALWAYS INTENDED REMAIN IN USA BECAUSE  
OF ILLNESS OF HER PARENTS AND THAT HER VISA RENEWAL REQUEST  
HAD BEEN MATTER OF PRINCIPLE.

3. DENIS MURPHY. EMBOFF SPOKE TO MRUPHY APRIL 11. HE HAS  
HEARD NOTHING FURTHER FROM COMMISSION ON IMMIGRATION AND IS  
PROCEEDING ON ASSUMPTION "NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS." MRPHY DID  
NOT REPEAT NOT REQUEST FURTHER EMBASSY ASSISTANCE AT THIS  
TIME.

4. FATHER KEVIN LYNCH. ON MARCH 25, CONSUL GENERAL  
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WROTE TO IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONER REYES INFORMING HIM  
OF SENATOR MOYNIHAN'S INTEREST IN LYNCH AND O'BRIEN  
CASES AND ASKING WHY VISAS NOT RENEWED. SO FAR THERE  
NO REPLY. MEMBER OF MARYKNOLL ORDER RECENTLY TOLD  
EMBOFF LYNCH WAS NO AN ACTIVIST, BUT SUSPECTED THAT  
BECAUSE OF HIS WORK IN TAGUM AREA HIS NAME MIGHT HAVE  
APPEARED ON ONE OF THE MILITARY'S ALL-PURPOSE SUBVERSIVE

LISTS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW UP WITH IMMIGRATION  
ON LYNCH CASE.

5. IF GOP HAS NOT ACTUALLY MODERATED HARDLINE  
POLICY ON VISAS FOR MISSIONARIES, AT LEAST IT SEEMS TO  
HAVE SUSPENDED POLICY FOR THE MOMENT. WE SUSPECT THIS  
CHANGE DUE TO A) MARCOS' DESIRE NOT TO FURTHER ANTAGONIZE  
THE CHURCH WHOSE HELP HE MAY REQUIRE IN CONNECTION WITH  
THE MINDANAO PROBLEM (SEE MANILA 5492, PARA 5);  
B) HEIGHTENED GOP SENSITIVITY TO ITS HUMAN RIGHTS IMAGE;  
C) GOP DESIRE NOT TO ANTAGONIZE U.S. POLITICAL FIGURES,  
PARCICULARLY IN THE CONGRESS WHOSE CONSTITUENTS INCLUDE  
MEMBER OF MARYKNOLL, JESUITS, ETC.; D) POSSIBLE MARCOS  
REALIZATION HIS MILITARY'S HAWKISH POLICY ON VISA ISSUE  
WAS CAUSING HIM MORE PROBLEMS THAN EXCLUSION OF MISSIONARIES  
WORTH.  
SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** GOP VISA RENEWAL FOR U.S. CITIZENS  
**TAGS:** CASC, US, (LYNCH, KEVIN), (O'BRIAN, JEAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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